

TOPIC Military Information from Potsdam

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EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____

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DATE OF CONTENT _____

DATE OBTAINED _____

DATE PREPARED 5 March 1953

REFERENCES _____

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REMARKS _____

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Prior to 21 January 1953, the south section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 800 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery or motor transport insignia. On 21 January, 5 officers and about 30 EM, carrying commander's telescopes, field telephones and map-mounting boards, marched to Bornstedterfeld.
2. On 20 January, the north section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied to capacity by an estimated 900 to 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery or motor transport insignia. _____ administrative officers wearing black-bordered crimson and red-bordered green epaulets. 25X1
3. On 20 January, the Hohenlohe Kaserne was occupied, not to capacity, by an estimated 500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and signal insignia and by an undetermined number of air force personnel wearing black-bordered blue epaulets. On 20 January, four soldiers with a prismatic compass and maps marched toward Hedlitz. Driving school trucks _____ occupied by air force personnel, were seen en route to the installation. 25X1
4. On 20 and 21 January, the Ludendorff Kaserne was occupied to capacity by an estimated 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and signal insignia. On both days, 24 soldiers were seen at entrenching work on Bornstedterfeld. Ambulance _____ and trucks _____ were seen en route to the installation. 25X1
5. On 21 January, the Kriegsschule in Bornstedt was occupied as previously by about 1,300 troops including an undetermined number of women. Sentries observed wore crimson epaulets with golden stripes. Three platoons of about 45 men each received instruction and practiced map reading. 25X1
6. On 21 January, the Adolf Hitler Kaserne was occupied by about 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia and including a few wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets; and by about 300 uniformed women. At 11 a.m. on 20 January, trucks _____ occupied by about 15 officers each, who were equipped with map pouches and field glasses, left the installation toward Doeberitz. At 11:15 a.m. on 21 January, trucks _____ 25X1

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[redacted] were seen in front of the installation ready to leave. The drivers of the trucks wore red-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered crimson epaulets with motor transport insignia.

7. Prior to 28 January, the barracks installation in Golm was occupied by about 400 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and about 200 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets and blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. Between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on 23 January, drill with rifles was performed in the barracks yard. Between 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 26 January, field training was held in the training area northwest of the barracks installation in Wildpark-West. Two platoons, each of about 30 soldiers, engaged in warlike entrenching work and two groups of about 15 soldiers each practiced attack. The groups deployed, advanced in double time and, subsequently, in leapfrog fashion and finally closed in on the assumed enemy position. A lieutenant colonel and a major wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets observed the exercises. On 28 January, three groups of soldiers were engaged in entrenching work, one group in close combat practice and one group in the performance of timed motions.

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8. Prior to 28 January, the barracks installation in Wildpark-West, as previously, was occupied beyond capacity by about 3,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia, blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia and including a few air force soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets. On 26 January, driving school trucks [redacted]

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[redacted] were seen.

9. From 30 January to 4 February, the Polizei Kaserne was occupied by about 400 soldiers, including about 200 wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, and the others wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. At 1:30 p.m. on 30 January, 1 officer, 1 NCO and 36 EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and equipped with 5 commander's telescopes, 4 field telephones, cable reels and 2 map-mounting boards left the installation for Bornstedterfeld.

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10. Prior to 30 January, the south section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery or motor transport insignia. From 20 to 30 January, troops were seen drilling, map reading, maintaining motor vehicles and receiving theoretical instruction in the quarters. At 10:15 a.m. on 27 January, six soldiers received instruction on a 122-mm field gun.

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11. Prior to 30 January, the north section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied to capacity by an estimated 900 to 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport or signal insignia. At 10:15 a.m. on 27 January, aiming practice with 5 x 152-mm gun howitzers and driving practice of a prime mover towing a 152-mm gun howitzer was observed on

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Bornstedterfeld. At 9:45 a.m. on 28 January, maintainancing of prime movers was observed. Twelve soldiers carrying telephone equipment left the installation and subsequently were seen at Nedlitzerholz (woods), where they practiced the stringing of telephone lines. At 11:30 a.m. on 30 January, about 150 to 200 soldiers received field training at Bornstedterfeld. Four prime movers towing 152-mm gun howitzers; and trucks [redacted] each occupied by 20 soldiers, left the installation toward Bornim.

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12. On 15 January, the Hohenlohe Kaserne was occupied not to capacity by an estimated 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and motor transport insignia. [redacted]

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13. On 15 January, the Ludendorff Kaserne was occupied by an estimated 600 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery or motor transport insignia; and blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. At about 10 a.m., theoretical instruction in the quarters was given. Six prime movers with attached guns were stored in the barracks area. Trucks [redacted] occupied by soldiers, left the installation toward Bornstedterfeld.

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14. From 29 January to 5 February, the Kavallerie Schule in Krampnitz was occupied as previously by about 5,000 to 6,000 troops. Soldiers observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery, motor transport and signal insignia. At 2 p.m. on 29 January, about 200 soldiers marched to the Bullenwinkel training area. Groups of 12 to 15 soldiers practiced advancing in the terrain. Between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on 30 January, about 600 soldiers, organized in platoons of 40 to 50 men each, marched to the Bullenwinkel training area. The troops included a military band. The majority of the soldiers were armed with rifles and carried spades. Three light and three heavy machine guns were seen with the troops. About 30 soldiers with 10 x 82-mm mortars and a radio truck were at the Bullenwinkel training area at the same time. Trucks [redacted] towing a 76.2-mm field gun, [redacted] occupied by about 20 officers, were seen leaving the installation. On 3 February, about 450 troops organized in three columns marched toward the Bullenwinkel training area. Subsequently, they were seen organized in groups of about 40 men, apparently receiving instruction. Radio truck [redacted] at the training area. Truck [redacted] occupied by about 15 officers, left the installation. On 4 February, troops seen in the training area north of the installation included: about 50 men, who practiced with pneumatic rafts; about 30 men, who practiced marksmanship with rifle grenades; about 30 men, who did entrenching work; about 200 men, who received field training; and about 10 men, who practiced dispatching and receiving of messages. Other troops practiced aiming with three 76.2-mm field guns at a moving T-34/85 tank. Three T-34/85 tanks were in the installation. On 5 February, about 750 troops organized in four columns marched to the Bullenwinkel training area where they practiced advancing in the terrain.

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15. On 28 January, the Kriegsschule was occupied to capacity by an estimated 1,500 troops, including some wearing golden braids. [redacted] on about 10 December 1952, the headquarters previously stationed in this installation had been transferred to Munsdorf. Trucks [redacted] occupied by a total of about 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black and black-bordered black epaulets, left the Kriegsschule.² 25X1
16. Prior to 28 January, the Ruinenberg Kaserne was occupied by an estimated 800 to 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. [redacted] 25X1
17. Prior to 5 January, the Garde-du-Corps Kaserne was occupied by a few Russian soldiers stationed in the north section; a German commercial school; and a battery shop stationed in another part of the installation. Most of the buildings were still unreconditioned. [redacted] 25X1
18. Prior to 5 January, the south section of the Leibgarde Husaren Kaserne was apparently occupied by an administrative office of the Soviet Army. Numerous German motor vehicles and Soviet vehicles [redacted] were seen there. The other section of the installation was occupied by VP. 25X1
19. Prior to 22 January, the north section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied to capacity. The mesh-wire fence surrounding the installation was being boarded. On 19 January, four prime movers towing 152-mm howitzers were seen leaving the installation. On 20 January, prime movers [redacted] towing 152-mm guns, and truck [redacted] left the installation. At 10:40 a.m. on 21 January, three prime movers towing 152-mm guns left the installation toward Bornstedterfeld. Each gun was followed by 8 to 10 soldiers. About 200 meters from the installation, a fire attack against the guns was simulated, whereupon the guns were emplaced and the prime movers were sheltered. A small tractor drove from one gun to the other. [redacted] the gun crews practiced the unloading of ammunition from this tractor. 25X1
20. Prior to 22 January, the south section of the Delius Kaserne was occupied to capacity. The guns observed corresponded to those observed in the north section. However, they had pneumatic tires and were drawn by small tractors, whereas the guns in the north section had solid tires and were drawn by large tractors. [redacted] Lieutenant Colonel Krasnov (fnu) was administrative officer.¹ 25X1
21. Prior to 8 January, the Kriegsschule was occupied as follows:
 building No 9 by 150 officers with ranks up to and including major and wearing tank and artillery insignia;
 building No 10 by 200 officer candidates wearing signal insignia and 100 officer candidates wearing motor transport insignia;
 building No 6 by 200 officer candidates of the infantry and 100 officer candidates of the artillery;
 building No 5 by 100 officer candidates wearing tank insignia and 50 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery and motor transport insignia; and
 building No 4 by 150 to 200 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets or black-bordered crimson epaulets; the personnel quartered in buildings Nos 4 and 5 apparently were instructors. The officer instructors were quartered outside the installation.
 At 12:15 p.m. on 25 January, several groups of officer candidates, each in the strength of about 45 men, wearing high-necked uniforms with braids and equipped with gas masks, rifles or submachine guns, left the Kriegsschule in double-time on the order of an officer.²

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22. From 25 January to 7 February, the barracks installation in Golm was occupied by about 500 soldiers wearing black or blue-bordered black epaulets, the latter with signal insignia, and by about 350 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and including a few wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

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At 2:30 p.m. on 29 January, three groups, each of 45 soldiers who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and carried submachine guns, gas masks and targets, returned from firing practice. At 8:15 a.m. on 7 February, truck [redacted] occupied by 10 soldiers wearing signal insignia left the installation toward Kuhfort. Trucks [redacted]

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[redacted] sedan [redacted] and truck [redacted] which picked up the bread for the signal unit, were seen in the installation.

23. Prior to 30 January, the barracks installation in Golm was occupied by troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia, black-bordered crimson epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia. After about 20 January, the strength of the unit with black-bordered crimson epaulets had increased to 450 men. The previously observed truck columns, which almost daily went toward Wildpark, were no longer seen. Training activities appeared to be restricted to the morning hours. On 26 January, about 250 soldiers equipped with targets, cable reels and field telephones marched toward Wildpark-West. At the same time, drill was observed in the barracks area. A column of about 40 trucks, each occupied by 5 to 8 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets, entered the installation.

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1. Comment. The information indicates no change in the distribution of units in the barracks installations mentioned.

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2. Comment. No change occurred in the occupation of the Kriegsschule. [redacted] confirms the previous assumption that, in early December 1952, only a headquarters left the Kriegsschule. It is believed that it was an instruction headquarters.

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3. Comment. [redacted] the 56th Motor Trans Regt of the GORG, stationed in the barracks installation in Wildpark-West near Potsdam.

4. Comment. [redacted] the Polizei Kaserne had been believed occupied by a komendatura and a guard unit. This information, however, indicates that in addition

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to the above mentioned units, about 200 artillery soldiers are stationed in the installation. They may belong to the GOFG.

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Comment.

the Ruinenberg Kaserne, in early December 1952, had allegedly been vacated and had subsequently been occupied by an advance detail of the VP.

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Prior to the alleged evacuation, the installation had been carried occupied by signal units of the GOFG. It is believed that the installation was not vacated but is still occupied by the units carried there previously.

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Comment.

the Garde-du-Corps Kaserne has been believed occupied by a motor transport unit and/or a motor pool of the Potsdam komendatura. The presence there of a German commercial school is reported for the first time.

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